

COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO.

TOPIC Alt Loennewitz Airfield

25X1X

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 3 to 12 May 1953

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 11 June 1953

25X1A

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. The following air activity was observed at Alt Loennewitz airfield between 3 and 12 May 1953:

3 May. There was no flying.

5 May. Between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., there was air activity by Il-10s with extended landing gears. Four to 6 planes took off at short intervals, circled four or five times over the field before landing individually. When the second group made the same practice, source determined the intervals between take-offs being 10 seconds and between landings being about 14 seconds.

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At 8:30 a.m., a formation of 14 MiG-15s was aloft. A four-finger formation flew ahead and a wedge formation of five planes followed on either side. In the morning, a MiG-15 towing a sleeve target was attacked by an element of two MiG-15s. Additional elements of two were aloft during the morning. In the afternoon, an element of two Yak-11s with a red stripe around the engine cowlings practiced flying.

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6 May. Between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., individual flights were made by Il-10s with extended landing gears. Additional Il-10s remained aloft for 40 to 60 minutes. There was a light rain. An Il-10 towing an air sleeve landed at 12:30 p.m. and another plane of the same type took off at 12:45 p.m. As soon as the latter plane became airborne and was seen over the trees its sleeve target was visible. In the early morning, flying was also practiced by MiG-15s and a MiG-15 towing an air sleeve. Between 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., night flying was practiced by swept-back jet fighters which took off in formations of four or five planes at intervals of about 600 meters. The landings were made at intervals of 1 to 2 km. Three searchlights were in operation.

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7 May. Between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., individual MiG-15s flew in or above the clouds. In the morning it rained occasionally. Between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., diving was practiced by Il-10s, three of which came down as far as 30 meters above the ground.

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8 May. At 2 p.m., a formation of 12 MiG-15s was aloft. At 2:30 p.m., Il-10s practiced diving. Between 7 and 11 p.m., night flying was practiced by ground attack planes.

9 May. Three elements of two MiG-15s each took off at 8:30 a.m. and subsequently headed toward the Elbe River. Il-10s circled the field between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and practiced diving between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Throughout the day there was formation flying by swept-back jet fighters.

10 May. There was no air activity.

11 May. Individual flights were made by Il-10s [redacted] Additional Il-10s practiced formation flying, while the weather was cloudy with intermittent rain showers.

12 May. Between 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., 3 Il-10s circled the field. There was a low cloud base and rain.

2. In early May, seven earth walls, 50 to 80 meters apart, extended in about north-south direction along the western edge of the field.
3. In early May, construction work of an unidentified type was observed in the AA gun emplacement on the southern edge of the field where timber had arrived.

4. [redacted]

Comment. Alt Loennowitz airfield is occupied by a fighter regiment and a ground attack regiment. Recently the aircraft of the fighter regiment were mostly observed practicing formation flying, while initial flight training by fighter pilots was seldom observed. Air activity by Il-10s with extended landing gears indicates that basic flying was practiced by some young pilots of the ground attack regiment.

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